

31 and a contracted displacing position wherein the device is displaceable to and from a pre-desired location in the vessel, and,

a releasable lock releasibly locking the device in at least one of the expanded support position the contracted displacing position.

32 4. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the inner and outer walls comprise a first terminal part and a second terminal part.

5. (Amended) Device according to claim 3, wherein the ring elements are interconnected by one or more linking members.

6. (Amended) Device according to claim 5, wherein the releasible lock comprises an interlocking mechanism provided on at least one of the first and second terminal parts.

7. (Amended) Device according to claim 6, wherein the interlocking mechanism comprises a catching element arranged on the first terminal part, said catching element being co-operable with a locking opening arranged on the second terminal part.

8. (Amended) Device according to claim 7, further comprising a guiding mechanism guiding the terminal parts over one another during at least one of expansion and contraction of the device.

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9. (Amended) Device according to claim 8, wherein the guiding mechanism includes one or more lip-sections in association with the first terminal part, which lip-sections cooperate with the second terminal part.
 10. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, further provided with a tracing agent, whereby the device is traceable when arranged in position with the body.
 11. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, further provided with a radio-active material in order to provide localized radiation therapy.
 12. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, further comprising a medicament in order to locally treat a medical disorder within the body.
 13. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, the device being pre-tensioned to assume in its resting state, either the contracted position or the expanded position.
 14. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, said device comprising a memory metal which assumes at least one of the contracted and expanded position when exposed to certain conditions.
 15. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein when occupying a removal displacing position, the first terminal part is overlapped by the second terminal part and

when occupying an insertion displacing position, the second terminal position is overlapped by the first terminal position.

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16. (Amended) Device according to claim 1, wherein the lock includes a male projection arranged on the second terminal part, interlockable with a female receiver arranged on the first terminal part.

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18. (Amended) Assembly for treating body vessel disorders, said assembly comprising a device according to claim 1, and,
an assembly configured for at least one of introducing and removing the device to or from the desired location within a vessel.

19. (Amended) Assembly according to claim 18, wherein the assembly comprises an expandable and deflateable balloon catheter.

20. (Amended) Process for arranging a device according to claim 1 within a body vessel, comprising the steps of,
arranging the device in its contracted form around a balloon catheter, so that the device grips onto the balloon catheter,
bringing the balloon catheter plus contracted device to a pre-determined position with a body vessel.

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expanding the balloon catheter whereby the device is also expanded, to such an extent that the releasable lock is locked in position, whereby in this expanded use position the balloon catheter may optionally be deflated and removed.

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21. (Amended) Process according to claim 20, further comprising the steps of reintroducing a balloon catheter into the vessel, expanding the balloon catheter against the inner wall of the device to such an extent that the device is further expanded in order to release the releasable lock, followed by deflating the balloon catheter whereby the device re-assumes its contracted position to grip around the balloon catheter, whereafter the balloon catheter and device may be removed from the body vessel.

22. (Amended) Method for treating vessels utilizing a device according to claim 1.

23. (Amended) Use of a device according to claim 1 for treating vessels of the digestive tract.

24. (Amended) Use of the device according to claim 1 for treating vessels of the urinary tract.

25. (Amended) Use of the device according to claim 1 for treating the vessels of the airways.

26. (Amended) Use of the device according to claim 1 for treating blood vessels.

27. (Amended) Use of the device according to claim 1 for locally radioactively treating a body vessel.

28. (Amended) Use of the device according to claim 1 for non-medical application, in particular for internally supporting transmission pipes.

31. (Amended) A method for manipulating a stent having a pretensioned contracted configuration, a first expanded configuration and a second expanded configuration, the method comprising the steps of:

delivering the stent in a pretensioned contracted form to a desired site;

deploying the stent by expanding the stent to the first expanded configuration;

and

subsequently retrieving the stent by further expanding the stent to the second expanded configuration whereby the stent collapses.

33. (Amended) A method as claimed in claim 31, wherein the stent is retrieved by advancing a retrieval balloon catheter to the stent and inflating the retrieval balloon to expand the deployed stent to the second expanded configuration whereby the stent collapses.

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